



Obama authorizes combat missions in Afghanistan for 2015

The New York Times

American troops will be allowed to carry out combat missions in Afghanistan next year under an order issued recently by President Barack Obama. The White House had indicated in May that the U.S. combat role in Afghanistan would wrap up at the end of the year.

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Eastern Europe troop rotations could continue, commander says

Army News Service

Army troops will continue to rotate to locations in Eastern Europe through the end of next year as part of Operation Atlantic Resolve, and those rotations could continue after next year and for the foreseeable future, the commander of U.S. Army Europe said today.

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Coalition partners urge Congress to pass FY 15 NDAA

ALA

Military and Veterans service organizations, and our Coalition valued associates, continue to call on Congress to pass the FY 15 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) in the lame duck session and to permanently end sequestration. These associations also continue to urge Congress not to balance the budget on the backs of military families.

Lawmakers hear from constituents about proposed military benefits cuts

The Hill

Lawmakers are receiving calls and e-mails from military families and advocates asking them not to cut housing and health care benefits – demonstrating the power of these organizations and their members to act when their benefits are threatened. The proposal before lawmakers would increase out-of-pocket fees for Tricare beneficiaries and require troops to pay up to 6% of their housing expenses.

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Pentagon revises policy regarding items bought on credit

Army Times

The Defense Department has indicated that starting January 1, 2015 troops will no longer be able to use allotments to pay for any "tangible and movable" personal property such as cars, boats, motorcycles, washers, dryers, furniture, laptops, tables, televisions and cellphones. The policy won't apply to any allotments currently in place to pay for these items on credit.

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DoD officials highlight health, wellness resources for military families

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

Pentagon officials continue efforts to strengthen service members and their families by highlighting available resources to tackle unique military and transitional challenges. Through its program, Operation Live Well, DoD is focusing on integrative wellness, physical activity, sleep, nutrition, tobacco-free living, and mental wellness.

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